



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION
UNIT 21420
APO AE 09705-1420

ACDP

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: USANATO Policy Letter 9, Relief for Cause

1. References:

- a. AR 600-20, Army Command Policy, 13 May 2002.
- b. AR 623-105, Officer Evaluation Reporting System, 17 December 2004.
- c. AR 623-205, Noncommissioned Officer Evaluation Reporting System, 15 May 2002.

2. When Soldiers misbehave or do not perform appropriately, commanders should try to effect change using positive leadership methods such as counseling. Stronger methods, such as counseling statements and letters of reprimand, may be necessary. When these methods fail, commanders may consider relief for cause.

3. Relief for cause is an extremely serious action. Commanders considering relief actions will strictly apply the policy prescribed by the referenced regulations and the following:

- a. Majors and below in command positions will not be relieved until the DCG, USANATO, approves the relief in writing. Officers and command sergeants major (CSMs) may be suspended from assigned duties by a member of their chain of command or supervisory chain, pending the decision on whether or not to relieve for cause.

- b. Colonels or lieutenant colonels in command positions and CSMs will not be relieved until the Chief of Staff, USANATO, has notified the CG and DCG, USANATO. After the CG, USANATO, has been notified, the DCG, USANATO, must approve the relief in writing.

4. Relief for cause is a last resort. By carefully applying the referenced regulations, commanders will protect the best interests of Soldiers and the U.S. Army.

DAVID D. McKIERNAN
General, USA
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION:
A, B, and C

This letter is available at <http://www.usanato.army.mil>.